

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 04661 171437Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SSM-03 IO-13 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 OMB-01 /081 W
-----067258 171829Z /45

R 171335Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8809
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, KU
SUBJECT: PRESS STORIES ON KUWAITI GULF SECURITY INITIATIVE

1. KUWAITI PRESS IN LAST FEW DAYS HAS CARRIED REPORTS
QUOTING "OFFICIAL SOURCES" TO THE EFFECT THAT THE KUWAITI
CROWN PRINE, SHAIKH JABER AL-AHMAD, WILL TOUR THE GULF
NEXT DECEMBER TO DISCUSS GULF COOPERATION AND A "STRATEGY
OF GULF SECURITY," FOLLOWING UP HIS MAY 1975 TOUR. THESE
SOURCES SAY HE WILL GO TO QATAR, UAE, OMAN AND SAUDI ARABIA.
THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ON THIS TRIP, BUT
THE KUWAITI PAPERS OF AUGUST 16 REPORT THAT THE IRANIAN
PRESS HAS EXPRESSED "SATISFACTION WITH THE IDEA PROPOSED BY
KUWAIT FOR THE CONCLUSION OF A SECURITY PACT AMONG THE
COUNTRIES OF THE ARABIAN GULF. THE (IRANIAN) NEWSPAPERS
ADDED THAT THE SCHEDULED TOUR...IS AIMED AT PROMOTING
THE ABOVE PROPOSAL."

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2. COMMENT: THE CROWN PRINCE MAY WELL BE SCHEDULED FOR
A GULF TOUR -- HE HAS NOT HAD SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS
ABORAD FOR MONTHS --BUT WE DOUBT SERIOUSLY THAT HE WILL
BE PROMOTING A GULF SECURITY PACT. THE KUWAITI PUBLIC
POSITION ON SUCH A PACT WAS REITERATED BY FOREIGN MINISTER
SHAIKH SABAH AL-AHMAD, ACCORDING TO A KUWAIT TIMES

AUG. 17 REPORT, WHO DENIED IRANIAN PRESS REPORTS THAT KUWAIT HAD SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL FOR A SECURITY TREATY AMONG THE GULF STATES. THE GOK HAD APPARENTLY SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL ALONG THOSE GENERAL LINES FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE GULF STATES SECURITY CONFERENCE IN MUSCAT LAST YEAR, BUT WITHDREW IT IN THE FACE OF STRONG OPPOSITION BY IRAQ IN ORDER TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN IRAQ AND THE OTHER GULF STATES. NOW, HOWEVER, WITH THE REDUCTION OF KUWAITI-IRAQI TENSIONS OVER THEIR BORDER PROBLEMS, THE APPARENT IRAQI EFFORTS AT RAPPROCHEMENT TOWARD THE GULF, AND CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN IRAQI-IRANIAN RELATIONS, THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE MUCH LESS LIKELIHOOD THAT KUWAIT WOULD CONSIDER PUTTING FORWARD A SECURITY PROPOSAL WHICH IRAQ WOULD OPPOSE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF THE RESTRICTIONS IT WOULD PLACE ON THE FLEXIBILITY OF THE LATTER'S POLICIES IN THE GULF AREA. MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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ISecure: 1
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